

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the claims is set forth below. Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Cancelled)**

2. **(Cancelled)**

3. **(Cancelled)**

4. **(Cancelled)**

5. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The method of claim 1, wherein:~~ A computer-implemented method for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, comprising:

receiving a first part number associated with an item, the first part number associated with the item being defined according to a first part numbering scheme;

searching a database for one or more second part numbers that are associated with the item and also cross-referenced to the first part number associated with the item, the one or more second part numbers associated with the item being defined according to one or more corresponding second part numbering schemes; and

in response to identifying the one or more second part numbers associated with the item, searching a database for a third part number that is associated with the item and also cross-referenced to at least one second part number associated with the item, the third part number associated with the item being defined according to a third part numbering scheme, the first part number associated with the item being mapped to the third part number associated with the item through the at least one second part number associated with the item,

wherein:

the first part number is not completely mapped to the third part number in that a plurality of second part numbers are associated with the item, at least some of these second part numbers are cross-referenced to the first part number but not cross-

referenced to the third part number, and at least some of these second part numbers are cross-referenced to the third part number but not cross-referenced to the first part number; and

the method further comprises:

determining a percentage of second part numbers to which both the first part number and the third part number are cross-referenced; and

if the determined percentage is greater than a predetermined value, considering the third part number equivalent to the first part number for purposes of a particular application for the first part number.

6. **(Cancelled)**

7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~ A computer-implemented method for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, comprising:

receiving a first part number associated with an item, the first part number associated with the item being defined according to a first part numbering scheme;

searching a database for one or more second part numbers that are associated with the item and also cross-referenced to the first part number associated with the item, the one or more second part numbers associated with the item being defined according to one or more corresponding second part numbering schemes;

in response to identifying the one or more second part numbers associated with the item, searching a database for a third part number that is associated with the item and also cross-referenced to at least one second part number associated with the item, the third part number associated with the item being defined according to a third part numbering scheme, the first part number associated with the item being mapped to the third part number associated with the item through the at least one second part number associated with the item;

accessing a first item to item specification to map the first part number to specification information for the item associated with the first part number, the first item to

item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the first part number and a second pointer to the specification information for the item associated with the first part number; and

accessing a second item to item specification to map the specification information for the item associated with the third part number to the third part number, the second item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the third part number and a second pointer to specification information for the item associated with the third part number, the specification information for the item associated with the third part number substantially matching the specification information for the item associated with the first part number.

9. **(Cancelled)**

10. **(Cancelled)**

11. **(Cancelled)**

12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The system of claim 9,~~ A computer-implemented system for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, comprising:

one or more databases containing a plurality of part numbers associated with a plurality of items;

one or more processors coupled to the database and collectively operable to receive a first part number associated with an item, the first part number associated with the item being defined according to a first part numbering scheme;

search a database for one or more second part numbers that are associated with the item and also cross-referenced to the first part number associated with the item, the one or more second part numbers associated with the item being defined according to one or more corresponding second part numbering schemes; and

in response to identifying the one or more second part numbers associated with the item, search a database for a third part number that is associated with the item

and also cross-referenced to at least one second part number associated with the item, the third part number associated with the item being defined according to a third part numbering scheme, the first part number associated with the item being mapped to the third part number associated with the item through the at least one second part number associated with the item,

wherein:

the first part number is not completely mapped to the third part number in that a plurality of second part numbers are associated with the item, at least some of these second part numbers are cross-referenced to the first part number but not cross-referenced to the third part number, and at least some of these second part numbers are cross-referenced to the third part number but not cross-referenced to the first part number; and

the one or more processors are further operable to:

determine a percentage of second part numbers to which both the first part number and the third part number are cross-referenced; and

if the determined percentage is greater than a predetermined value, consider the third part number equivalent to the first part number for purposes of a particular application for the first part number.

14. **(Cancelled)**

15. **(Cancelled)**

16. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more processors are further operable to:~~ A computer-implemented system for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, comprising:

one or more databases containing a plurality of part numbers associated with a plurality of items;

one or more processors coupled to the database and collectively operable to receive a first part number associated with an item, the first part number associated with the item being defined according to a first part numbering scheme;

search a database for one or more second part numbers that are associated

with the item and also cross-referenced to the first part number associated with the item, the one or more second part numbers associated with the item being defined according to one or more corresponding second part numbering schemes;

in response to identifying the one or more second part numbers associated with the item, search a database for a third part number that is associated with the item and also cross-referenced to at least one second part number associated with the item, the third part number associated with the item being defined according to a third part numbering scheme, the first part number associated with the item being mapped to the third part number associated with the item through the at least one second part number associated with the item;

access a first item to item specification to map the first part number to specification information for the item associated with the first part number, the first item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the first part number and a second pointer to the specification information for the item associated with the first part number; and

access a second item to item specification to map the specification information for the item associated with the third part number to the third part number, the second item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the third part number and a second pointer to specification information for the item associated with the third part number, the specification information for the item associated with the third part number substantially matching the specification information for the item associated with the first part number.

17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Cancelled)**

20. **(Cancelled)**

21. **(Currently Amended)** The software of claim 17, Software for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, the software

being embodied in computer-readable media and when executed operable to:

receive a first part number associated with an item, the first part number associated with the item being defined according to a first part numbering scheme;

search a database for one or more second part numbers that are associated with the item and also cross-referenced to the first part number associated with the item, the one or more second part numbers associated with the item being defined according to one or more corresponding second part numbering schemes; and

in response to identifying the one or more second part numbers associated with the item, search a database for a third part number that is associated with the item and also cross-referenced to at least one second part number associated with the item, the third part number associated with the item being defined according to a third part numbering scheme, the first part number associated with the item being mapped to the third part number associated with the item through the at least one second part number associated with the item,

wherein:

the first part number is not completely mapped to the third part number in that a plurality of second part numbers are associated with the item, at least some of these second part numbers are cross-referenced to the first part number but not cross-referenced to the third part number, and at least some of these second part numbers are cross-referenced to the third part number but not cross-referenced to the first part number; and

the software is further operable to:

determine a percentage of second part numbers to which both the first part number and the third part number are cross-referenced; and

if the determined percentage is greater than a predetermined value, consider the third part number equivalent to the first part number for purposes of a particular application for the first part number.

22. **(Cancelled)**

23. **(Cancelled)**

24. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The software of claim 17, further operable to:~~
Software for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, the software being embodied in computer-readable media and when executed operable to:

receive a first part number associated with an item, the first part number associated with the item being defined according to a first part numbering scheme;

search a database for one or more second part numbers that are associated with the item and also cross-referenced to the first part number associated with the item, the one or more second part numbers associated with the item being defined according to one or more corresponding second part numbering schemes;

in response to identifying the one or more second part numbers associated with the item, search a database for a third part number that is associated with the item and also cross-referenced to at least one second part number associated with the item, the third part number associated with the item being defined according to a third part numbering scheme, the first part number associated with the item being mapped to the third part number associated with the item through the at least one second part number associated with the item;

access a first item to item specification to map the first part number to specification information for the item associated with the first part number, the first item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the first part number and a second pointer to the specification information for the item associated with the first part number; and

access a second item to item specification to map the specification information for the item associated with the third part number to the third part number, the second item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the third part number and a second pointer to specification information for the item associated with the third part number, the specification information for the item associated with the third part number substantially matching the specification information for the item associated with the first part number.

25. **(Cancelled)**

26. **(Original)** A computer-implemented method for mapping between part numbers that are based on different part numbering schemes, comprising:

receiving a customer part number associated with an item, the customer part number associated with the item being defined according to a part numbering scheme of a corresponding customer;

searching a database for one or more manufacturer part numbers that are associated with the item and also cross-referenced to the customer part number associated with the item, the one or more manufacturer part numbers associated with the item each being defined according to a part numbering schemes of a corresponding manufacturer, a first item to item specification mapping the customer part number to specification information for the item associated with the customer part number, the first item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the customer part number and a second pointer to the specification information for the item associated with the customer part number; and

in response to identifying the one or more manufacturer part numbers associated with the item, searching a database for an internal part number that is associated with the item and also cross-referenced to at least one manufacturer part number associated with the item, the internal part number associated with the item being defined according to a part numbering scheme of a corresponding seller, a second item to item specification mapping the specification information for the item associated with the internal part number to the internal part number, the second item to item specification having a first pointer to information identifying the item associated with the internal part number and a second pointer to specification information for the item associated with the internal part number, the specification information for the item associated with the internal part number substantially matching the specification information for the item associated with the customer part number, the customer part number being mapped to the internal part number through the at least one manufacturer part number.